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OLC #77-3908 15 September 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing on Panama for Representative Ike Skelton > fele

1. On Tuesday, 13 September 1977, a briefing o	n
Panama was provided for Representative Ike Skelton (D	., Mo.).
The Congressman's office had requested the briefing a	nd he
was invited for breakfast in the Director's dining ro	
ORPA, was the briefer. Also present we	
	CSS,
and OLC.	•

- 2. The session began at roughly 8:00 a.m. and ended about 9:30 a.m. It covered the recent history of Panama and the thirteen-year progress of the treaty negotiations. Mr. Skelton asked a number of questions about the economic, social and political aspects of Panama and of the present government and its leaders. He also asked about the current and future impact of treaty negotiations and treaty ratification on other countries in Latin America. to be very well informed and responsive.
- 3. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Skelton spoke highly of the calibre of Agency personnel and expressed his gratitude for the meeting.
- During and after the meeting Mr. Skelton said he might possibly be making a trip to Panama in the near future. He said that on a recent trip home he noticed strong sentiment against ratification of the treaty from all sections of his district.

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